

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FEA-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06

ERDA-05 /109 W

-----141712Z 034988 /44

R 141415Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL BREMEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2212

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, PFOR, TECH, BR, GW, US

SUBJECT: KLAUS MEHNERT COMMENTS ON FRG-BRAZIL ATOMIC POWER

DEAL

1. AT THE 433RD ANNUAL TRADITIONAL FRATERNAL DINNER OF TRADERS AND SEAFARERS, "SCHAFERMAHLZEIT", HELD IN THE BREMEN RATHAUS ON FEBRUARY 11, KLAUS MEHNERT, THE WELL-KNOWN GERMAN SOVIETOLOGIST/SINOLOGIST AND POLITICAL ANALYST, ADDRESSED THE 270 PARTICIPANTS AS GUEST SPEAKER. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, MEHNERT, IN HIS FAR-RANGING SPEECH, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMENTED AMONG OTHERS ON THE FRG-BRAZIL ATOMIK POWER DEAL. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID "IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER CARTER THE MORALIST CAN LEARN TO BECOME A REALIST". MEHNERT SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT "ONLY AS A MORALIST CAN CATER DEMAND THAT BRAZIL NOT BE PROVIDED WITH ATOMIC KNOW-HOW; BEHIND CARTER, HOWEVER, THERE STAND UNNOTICED STURDY MONOPOLISTIC INTERESTS WHO WISH TO CONCLUDE THE BUSINESS

DEAL THEMSELVES. FOR THE FRG, WHICH HAD ACQUIRED ITS ECONOMIC PLACE IN THE WORLD ONLY THROUGH ITS NEARLY LEGENDARY TRUSTWORTHINESS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE CONTRACTS WITH BRAZIL BE HONORED".

2. MEHNERT'S REMARKS WOULD PERHAPS NOT BE SO SIGNIFICANT IN AND OF THEMSELVES, WERE IT NOT FOR THE FACT THAT THEY WERE MADE BEFORE A PRESTIGIOUS AND INFLUENTIAL GERMAN AND FOREIGN AUDIENCE. AMONG THOSE PRESENT WERE, IN ADDITION TO BREMEN MAYOR KOSCHNICK, PETER HERMES, FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY, THE BRITISH, DUTCH, AND AUSTRIAN AMBASSADORS TO BONN, MARTIN SCHLEYER OF DAIMLER-BENZ AND PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, JUERGEN EICK, PUBLISHER OF THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, JEAN-ARTHUR VAROQUAUX, PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH-GERMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN PARIS, AND MANY OTHERS. THERE IS A RISK THAT THE MEHNERT VIEW OF US POLICY MOTIVATIONS MAY BECOME CONTAGIOUS AND MAY BEGIN TO BE REFLECTED IN WIDER GERMAN PUBLIC OPINION. A TIMELY AND INTENSIVE USG PUBLIC INFORMATION EFFORT TO COUNTERACT THIS VIEW OF US POLICY WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN ORDER.SCHIFFMAN

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Message Attributes

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